



## Baghdad Police Academy trains new officers for new Iraq

**Ahmad Hammadi Abdulameer, "Baghdad Now"**  
BAGHDAD, Iraq -- The Baghdad Police Academy introduced the next generation of the city's police officers to the Iraqi people and the world during "media day" activities Feb. 24.

Members of the Iraqi and international media had an opportunity to observe police cadets' training and meet some of the new Iraqi Police Service officers. They also had an opportunity learn more about the Iraqi Police Service.

They also met the academy's instructors which include Soldiers from Task Force 1st Armored Division's 415th Military Police Company.

The goal of the visit is to give the press opportunities to see the training taking place at the academy, said Melvin J Goudie, the academy's director. The media also had the opportunity to see the cadets at the shooting range, classroom, and other training areas.

According to Col. Hussein Mehdi, academy's dean, the cadets' training program includes an eight-week basic program conducted at the Baghdad Police Academy or at the International Police Training Center in Jordan.

The goal of the training is to introduce and reinforce future police officers' knowledge and understanding of human rights, democratic police principles, and modern policing techniques, he said. Also included are classes covering personal freedoms, gender issues, diversity awareness, rights of children and juveniles, searches, Iraqi criminal law and police procedures and the laws governing arrest.

Coursework also covers international law, basic firearms training, search tactics, patrol procedures, civil disturbance management, physical fitness, self-defense and domestic violence.

Optional courses include classes on interviewing and reporting skills, mine awareness and first aid, Goudie said.

Once their work in the academy is completed, the police cadets also receive field training where they undergo an additional 24-week program led by senior Iraqi and international police officers, Mehdi said. To prepare the cadets for their first



**A Military Policeman from the 415th Military Police Co., leads Iraqi Police Service cadets in some push-ups at the Baghdad Police Academy. MPs from Task Force 1st Armored Division are the lead instructors in the cadet's eight week training. Combat Camera photo.**

assignments, they complete an internship as part of the Transition Integration Program, Mehdi said.

"Approximately 2,500 officers have completed TIP training," he said.

Additionally, police officers currently serving on the force are required to take a three-week training program focusing on international standards on human rights, modern policing techniques and Iraqi criminal law and procedures, Mehdi said.

During training, recruits receive a salary of \$50 per month. Upon graduation, the officers' salary increases to \$60 per month. In addition to their monthly salary, IPS recruits and officers receive hazardous duty pay of \$86 per month.

The academy has 940 recruits currently in training, Mehdi said. The current class is made up of 93.4 percent male and 6.6 percent female cadets.

"It is a great opportunity for Iraqi women to prove themselves by joining the police service," said cadet Huda Thamer. "I am ready to fight the terrorists and participate in bringing peace to my country."

## **NEWS...**

### **Two Americans, Translator Killed in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Gunmen posing as police at a makeshift checkpoint south of Baghdad killed two American civilians and their Iraqi translator - all employees of the U.S.-led coalition, U.S. officials said Wednesday. In the northern town of Kirkuk, gunmen wounded three American soldiers near a stadium, the U.S. military said.

### **Israeli, Palestinian Leaders Plan Summit**

JERUSALEM (AP) - The Israeli and Palestinian prime ministers have rescheduled a much-delayed first summit meeting for next week and will take up issues ranging from Israel's planned pullout from Gaza to attempts to restart the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan. Also, Israeli undercover units killed five Palestinians - at least four of them armed militants - in a raid in the West Bank town of Jenin.

### **Marines Kill Two Haitians in Gun Battles**

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - U.S. Marines shot and killed at least two gunmen who opened fire near the private residence of Haiti's outgoing prime minister. It was the third fatal shooting by U.S. Marines in three days. On Sunday, they killed an alleged gunman who opened fire on a demonstration, and on Monday they fatally shot a driver speeding toward a checkpoint.

### **Teenage Sniper Malvo Gets Life Sentence**

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (AP) - Teenage sniper Lee Boyd Malvo was sentenced to life in prison without parole Wednesday for an October 2002 killing spree in the Washington, D.C., area that left 10 people dead.

Malvo, 19, was sentenced a day after sniper mastermind John Allen Muhammad was given the death penalty. Malvo did not speak at the brief hearing.

### **Internet Providers Sue Hundreds for Spam**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some of the nation's largest Internet providers, in an unusual joint effort, said Wednesday they filed six lawsuits against hundreds of people who were accused of sending millions of unwanted e-mails in violation of the new U.S. law against "spam."

The legal actions by Microsoft Corp., America Online Inc., Earthlink Inc. and Yahoo! Inc., represent the first major industry actions under the "can spam" legislation that went into effect Jan. 1. The lawsuits, filed in federal courts in California, Georgia, Virginia and Washington state, were announced at a news conference.

## **Thought for the day...**

### **"Discipline"**

On February 29, 1852, Her Majesty Troop Ship Birkenhead was approaching South Africa with soldiers of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and about 300 women and children taking passage as families of servicemen. Near Danger Point, the ship ran into a rock and began to sink.

Assembling the troops on deck, Capt. Wright told the men to stand fast so that they would not endanger the women and children by overloading the lifeboats. As the life boats pulled away from the side, the men stood in formation on deck, four deep, eyes front, as the ship broke up and sank beneath their feet.

There were 638 passengers aboard that night, although only a handful of army contingent survived, every woman and child made it safely to shore.

## **Sports...**

### **McCain Criticizes Baseball Over Steroids**

By **FREDERIC J. FROMMER**, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Major league baseball has a "legitimacy problem" because of suspicions about steroid use among players, Sen. John McCain said Wednesday in urging the sport to institute a stronger drug testing program.

"Sports organizations that allow athletes to cheat through weak drug testing regimes are aiding and abetting cheaters," McCain, R-Ariz., said.

"Each of you, and particularly major league baseball, has a legitimacy problem," he said, addressing top baseball and football officials in attendance. "As your athletes get bigger and stronger, the credibility of your product in the eyes of the public gets weaker."

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig and players' union head Donald Fehr were scheduled to testify, along with National Football League Commissioner Paul Tagliabue and NFL players' union chief Gene Upshaw.

In his prepared remarks, Selig said major league baseball would like to have stronger testing but couldn't get the union to agree.

The committee also is examining legislation sponsored by Sen. Joe Biden that would ban over-the-counter sales of androstenedione, a steroid-like supplement that Mark McGwire used the year he broke the single-season home run mark, and the newly detected steroid THG.

Biden criticized the players union for resisting stronger testing for steroids.

"The union's wrong, here," said Biden, D-Del. "There's something simply un-American about this," he added. "This is about values, about culture, it's about who we define ourselves to be."

Biden said that as a former college athlete, he takes the issue personally.

"I find myself angry, angry, in my gut," Biden said.

Last year, 5 to 7 percent of players tested positive for steroids, even though they knew when the tests were coming. That level triggered more tests later this year, although a player won't face a year's suspension until a fifth offense.

The NFL, by contrast, has a year-round random testing program for players and imposes immediate suspensions on those who test positive for banned substances.

Baseball players have gotten larger and stronger in the last 10 years as the game's signature power play - the home run - became much more common. Some believe players have taken illegal drugs to boost their performances and cash in on huge contracts available to the game's premier power hitters.

The suspicion that some of the game's greats are using steroids has loomed over spring training this year.

The San Francisco Chronicle, quoting information it said was provided to federal investigators, reported last week that steroids were given to San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds, who broke McGwire's record in 2001; New York Yankees stars Jason Giambi and Gary Sheffield; three other major leaguers; and one NFL player. Bonds, Giambi and Sheffield have denied using steroids.

That report came out of a grand jury investigation of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative. Last month, two company executives, along with Bonds' trainer and a track coach, were charged with supplying steroids to athletes.

Some players have said they want a stronger testing program. Last month, Atlanta Braves All-Star reliever John Smoltz recommended tougher testing, saying the game's integrity was at stake.

"There's a way they should do tests," he said. "Do them the way they should be done - not a platform that's just a smoke screen."